



## NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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# State Requests Small Business Administration Public Damage Assessment

**Lincoln, Neb.** — The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) has requested that the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) conduct damage assessments for homes and businesses in Jefferson, Saline and Thayer counties following flooding due to storms May 2-6.

Beginning Tuesday, May 20, three teams of local emergency managers, NEMA and SBA representatives will canvass the counties to assess and validate damage and disaster impacts against SBA assistance eligibility criteria.

“When considering eligibility for SBA assistance for homeowners and business owners, our damage assessment teams will document a number of factors,” said NEMA assistant director Bryan Tuma. “They will look at the number of homes and businesses that were damaged and the ability of the community to recover.”

Once the damage assessments are complete, state officials use the damage totals and impact data to determine whether the disaster meets established criteria and can warrant the governor requesting an SBA declaration.

SBA provides low interest loans to businesses and individuals for repair and replacement of damaged property.

If approved in the three requested counties, SBA loans would be available in contiguous counties which include: Fillmore, Gage, Lancaster, Nuckolls, Seward and York.

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